

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently amended) Sustained-release morphine sulphate microgranules each comprising a neutral support grain coated with an active layer and with a sustained-release layer, said sustained-release layer containing:

- a copolymer of poly(ethylacrylate, methyl methacrylate, trimethylammonioethyl methacrylate chloride) 1:2:0.1;

- a plasticizer; and

- a conventional lubricant;

wherein said sustained-release layer further comprises a hydrophobic silica which represents 0.2 to 1 % by weight of the microgranules and wherein said microgranules are devoid of any outer protective film. characterized in that the sustained-release layer contains a copolymer of poly(ethyl acrylate, methyl methacrylate, trimethylammonioethyl methacrylate chloride) 1:2:0.1 and a silica exhibiting a hydrophobic character.

7. (Currently amended) Microgranules according to claim 6, ~~claim 1~~, characterized in that the relative mass proportion of the morphine sulphate and of the neutral support grain is between 40/60 and 60/40.

8. (Currently amended) Microgranules according to claim 6, ~~claim 1~~, characterized in that the morphine sulphate represents 30 to 40% by mass of the microgranules.

9. (Currently amended) Process for preparing the microgranules according to claim 6, characterized in that the active layer and the sustained-release layer are applied onto the neutral grains by emplacing ~~empling~~ in aqueous solution.
10. (Previously presented) Pharmaceutical composition containing the microgranules according to claim 6, optionally obtained according to the process for preparing the microgranules, characterized in that the active layer and the sustained-release layer are applied onto the neutral grains by emplacing in aqueous solution.
11. (Currently amended) Microgranules according to claim 6 ~~claim 5~~, wherein the plasticizer is triethylcitrate.
12. (Cancelled).
13. (Previously presented) Microgranules according to claim 6, further comprising 30-40 %wt neutral support grain.
14. (Previously presented) Microgranules according to claim 6, further comprising 10-20 %wt binder.
15. (Previously presented) Microgranules according to claim 6, further comprising 1-2.5 %wt plasticizer.
16. (Previously presented) Microgranules according to claim 6, further comprising 2-4 %wt lubricant.
17. (Cancelled).
18. (Previously presented) Microgranules according to claim 6, further comprising 5-15 %wt methacrylic acid copolymer.
19. (Previously presented) Microgranules according to claim 6, further comprising 30-40 %wt morphine sulphate, 30-40 %wt neutral support grain, 10-20 %wt binder, 1-2.5 %wt plasticizer, 2-4 %wt lubricant, and 0.2-1 %wt hydrophobic silica.

20. (Previously presented) Microgranules according to claim 6, characterized in that they have the following composition (% by mass):

morphine sulphate	37.3
neutral grains	37.3
hydroxypropylmethylcellulose	13.0
poly(ethylacrylate, methyl methacrylate, trimethylammonioethyl methacrylate chloride) 1:2:0.1	8.2
triethylcitrate	1.6
talc and	2.1
hydrophobic silica	0.4.

21. (Previously presented) Microgranules according to claim 6, characterized in that they have the following composition (% by mass):

morphine sulphate	35.1
neutral grains	39.7
Hydroxypropylmethylcellulose	12.3
poly(ethylacrylate, methyl methacrylate, trimethylammonioethyl methacrylate chloride) 1:2:0.1	8.2
Triethylcitrate	1.6
talc and	2.6

hydrophobic silica	0.4.
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22 (Previously presented) Microgranules according to claim 6, characterized in that they have the following composition (% by mass):

morphine sulphate	40.9
neutral grains	34.3
hydroxypropylmethylcellulose	14.3
poly(ethylacrylate, methyl methacrylate, trimethylammonioethyl methacrylate chloride) 1:2:0.1	6.7
triethylcitrate	1.3
talc and	2.2
hydrophobic silica	0.3.

23. (Previously presented) Microgranules according to claim 6, characterized in that they have the following composition (% by mass):

morphine sulphate	41.9
neutral grains	33.0
Hydroxypropylmethylcellulose	11.7
PEG 4000	2.9
poly(ethylacrylate, methyl methacrylate,	7.3

trimethylammonioethyl methacrylate chloride) 1:2:0.1	
Triethylcitrate	1.4
Talc	1.4
hydrophobic silica	0.4